The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative and Judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 12. NO. 32. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1922. WHOLE NO 603.

SHORTAGE-OF-LABOR STORIES NOT UPHELD BY U. S. BOARD

Washington, Oct. 28.—The government's authoritative statistical department—the bureau of labor statistics—is not a party to "labor-shortage" claims made by certain government officials and business men. These claims are always associated with a demand for free immigration.

In a statement just issued the bureau presents reports on employment in September from 2,652 representative establishments in 42 manufacturing industries, employing 1,345,162 employes. Comparing the September figures with those for identical establishments for August, the statement says that "it appears that in 25 of the 42 industries there were increases in the number of employes, while in 23 there were decreases."

The greatest increase is 15.8 per cent in car building and repairing. This means there were an additional 158 employes in every 1,000 over the August figure. The next largest increase is that with 11.3 per cent, or an additional 113 employes in every 1,000 over the August figures. Foundry and machine shop employment is third with 10.1 per cent increase, or a gain of 101 employes in very 1,000 over the August figures. The fourth increase is stoves, with 9.4 per cent; flour, with 8.4 per cent; tobacco, 5.9 per cent.

The gains reported in other industries are in reality fiction. In the important automobile industry, the employed increased one-half of 1 per cent over August. This means that there were five more workers for every 1,000 employed. In boots and shoes there were nine more workers employed; in electrical machinery, 20 more workers for every 1,000 employed in August; in furniture 10 more workers per 1,000; in glass, seven more workers per 1,000; in hardware, nine more workers; in leather, 20; in paper and pulp, seven, and in meat packing, 20 more workers for every 1,000 employed in August.

The greatest decreases appear in agricultural implements, 4.4 per 1,000 workers per 1,000 less than August; lumber (mill work), 3.7 per cent, or 37 per 1,000 less, and hosiery and knit goods, 3.2 per cent, or 32 per 1,000 less.

WALL STREET FAVORS TAX-EXEMPT BONDS

Washington, Oct. 28.—It is proposed that the constitution be amended to put an end to the issuance of tax-exempt bonds. It is stated that the white house favors the plan, and that the secretary of the Treasury Mellon is also agreeable, as is Wall street. Which would seem to warrant the statement that no serious objection will now be raised by those who have for some time a constitutional change is declared necessary to correct some social evils.

It will be recalled that one of the strong arguments for a reduction of the excess profits tax at the last congress was the claim that when excess profits were taxed, people would not invest in industry and would put their money in tax-exempt bonds. Now it is declared that the buying of tax-exempt bonds becomes even though excess profits have been cut.

Wall street favors the plan because it will levy a tax on about $12,000,000,000 worth of bonds, and thus block any plan to re-enact the excess profits tax and tax undivided surpluses of corporations.

The bonds are scattered throughout the nation and held in small quantities, by people of all classes. To tax them is of less importance to Wall street than it is to tax the surplus of the steel trust or the rubber trust. The tax on the bonds would put a stiff levy on excess profits.

Under the circumstances Wall street can be expected to support the virtuous pose against the tax-exempt bonds that are issued by states and their political units.

CAR MEN BATTLE TO HOLD FREEDOM

Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 28.—The street car strike in this city is centering around the question whether a bona fide labor union shall be supplanted by the company "union," known as the "Mitten management," and named after the man who installed it in Philadelphia. The street car company that city owns the Buffalo line and the Philadelphia, parties are anxious to extend their company "union," which has been enshrouded in the most fulsome praise that paid publicity agents and big pay journalists can devise.

State cossacks have been sent into this city by Governor Miller, a full officer of the cossacks bought 25 pounds of dynamite in the name of the business agent of the Street Car Men's union. The cossack's attempt to discredit the union is given little attention in the professional moralists and champions of "law and order."

Prices Won't Drop; Old Guides Useless

Boston, Oct. 28.—There will be no drop of prices to the prewar level during the next 19 years.

The purchasing power of the dollar in other periods of deflation is useless for comparative purposes because conditions are not similar.

The above declarations featured an address delivered by Professor Charles J. Bullock, chairman of the Harvard committee on economic research.

"The Harvard committee," he said, "does not accept the contention that prices must return to a prewar normal because prices had reverted to that level after the previous periods of currency inflation in the early and middle nineteenth century. The committee can not find that the conditions were anything which brought about lower price levels in the past.

"The gold situation must first be considered. It would seem that an annual increment of $150,000,000 should be ample to prevent a decline or gold prices during the present decade."

If the general trend of commodity prices should decline during this decade, he said, this would be due to the liquidation of prices by the leading commercial countries and not to a shortage of yellow metal.

NEW 'WAY MEN'S CHIEF.

Duluth, Minn., Oct. 28.—The Duluth Labor World makes the announcement on F. H. Fljozdal, the new president of the Maintenance-of-Way employes.

"Mr. Fljozdal was originally a Duluth man. He came to this city when a mere boy 25 years ago. He was born in Iceland and was but an infant when a small child. He was adopted according to the laws of Ireland by friendly neighbors and came to Pine county where he was reared.

"When the Soo Canadian Northern was built he transferred to that road and was stationed at Warroad where he wedded until 1917.

The Labor World says Mr. Fljozdal "will not take his organization work from his own ridge, but will hold it with both feet squarely on terra firma.

"His long experience in making contracts with the Canadian railroads will stand him in good stead in his new position."

WANT ALIENS REGISTERED.

Washington, Oct. 28.—In a speech before business men in Washington, D. C., Burns, the "great detective," urged the passage of a bill requiring that all aliens be registered. The bill is favored by Secretary of Labor Davis.

Under the provisions of this bill, said the "great detective," registration would drive many radicals out of our country. The aliens would be examined and every radical agitator who would now seek soils of dissension would be ousted.

The "great detective" left it to the imagination of the business men to sense the value of such legislation when the steel trust, or meat barons, for instance, are facing an epidemic of strike. Then, legislation they import to break down living standards will themselves be checked, because they have awakened to what real Americanization means.

EXPRESS CO. IS LIABLE.

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 28.—The state compensation commissioner has ruled that the American express company is liable for injuries sustained by any of its employes, although the company has refused to accept the terms of the Connecticut workmen's compensation law.

CHECK BRITISH HOUSE OF LORDS; WHY NOT AMERICAN AUTOCRACY?

By SENATOR LaFOLLETTE

Before A. F. of L. Convention, Cincinnati.

What I propose is that congress shall be enabled to override this usurped judicial veto and to declare finally the public policy just as it has the power to override the presidential veto so that we may realize in fact the fundamental purpose of the constitution as declared in article 1, section 1, that "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a congress of the United States, which shall consist of a senate and house of representatives."

A very good illustration of what I propose is found in the recent history of the house of lords of Great Britain. This body, as you know, constitutionally, has a dual character. It is both a law-making body and a court. Our supreme court, as usurping legislative powers, has become somewhat like the British house of lords. You will recall that several years ago the house of lords refused to approve the budget adopted by the house of commons, which landed assessments for the promotion of a great program of social legislation. This veto of the house of lords precipitated a crisis in the British parliament that the next general election was fought on the issue that hereafter if the house of lords withheld approval of any measure of the house of commons the latter could, did! Can we not reduce our federal judiciary to its constitutional powers? If not, we can at least arrest its further growth.

FOOD LABOR CONSUMES IS NO WAGE STANDARD

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Oct. 25.—The cost of living on their guard against the basic wage that goes down and up with the cost of living, says the Australian Worker, published in this city.

"The unions must lay it down as a principle from which they will never deviate, save under compulsion, that the value of the worker is determined by the wealth that he creates and not by the food that he consumes."

This labor publication says the new basic wage, to be announced by the government, is expected to be a little higher because the cost of living has risen since the last rates were formulated.

"That the cost of living fallen, the basic wage would have suffered a further reduction," says the editor.

"There are some workers, strange to say, who think it is the value of what they get in return for their labor should vary with the cost of living. They actually figure it out to themselves that the establishment of this principle in our laws is something to their advantage, that it marks a decided gain in the ceaseless struggle which the workers of labor carries on against the exploiting class.

"If wages are to be tethered to the cost of living—if they are to rise and fall according to the fluctuating prices of necessary commodities, then good-bye to the progress of the wage principle.

"As long as such a system obtains, and is accepted as a fair thing by the workers, there will never be any uplifting of their rates. They will remain as they are, mere adjuncts of the market quotations, content to be regulated to the prices of bread and butter and meat."

LESS ILLITERACY.

Washington, Oct. 28.—"Illiteracy is slowly disappearing in the United States," says the federal bureau of education in advertising the "American education week" for Dec. 3 to 9 next.

Insisting that the need for a continuous campaign for education is necessary, the bureau says:

"If the present trend of commodity prices should decline during this decade, he said, this would be due to the elimination of illiteracy, for the leading commercial countries are not to a shortage of yellow metal.

DAIRY CO-OPS. PROSPER.

Minneapolis, Oct. 28.—The net profits of the Franklin co-operative creamery for 1922 were $10,001.46. This concern was started by union milk wagon drivers who were locked out by the dairy trust by anti-union employers. The business has been a factor forcing the employers to change their viewpoint and sign the union's agreement.

The co-ops' report just issued shows that the September profits have not only been $10,000 but that the business for the first nine months of this year exceeds the same period last year by $241,566.71. Profits for the first nine months are two and one-half times those of the profits for the same period in 1921 after the creamery had been erected and up-to-date machinery installed. The building carries a fine auditorium.

"PENNSY" ROAD IS TRICKY.

York, Pa., Oct. 28.—The Pennsylvania railroad's efforts to force striking shop men to return to work were denounced at a mass meeting of striking shop men of the railroad insists it is not affected by the strike.

Speakers showed that while the company is spreading these tales for the benefit of the public, it is striving to break the ranks of striking shop men.

It was declared that the polling stock and motive power of the railroad is in bad condition.

COKE REGION MINERS RESIST STEEL TRUST

Indianapolis, Oct. 28.—President Lewis and selected officers of the United Mine Workers of America have issued an appeal to organize the Connellsville district, on behalf of miners in the Connellsville coke region.

No semblance of organization has ever been permitted in that territory, which is dominated by the steel trust. When the coal miners struck their nation-wide strike, on April 1 last, these men revolted against feudal conditions and joined the strike.

In their appeal, the miners' officials say:

"Do you know that 45,000 miners with their wives and 170,000 children live up one of the most remarkable battles since April 1, 1922, for industrial freedom that was ever fought in this country?

"Do you know that 5,000 of these men have been driven and children have been evicted from their homes while 10,000 others have been served with eviction notices?

"Do you know the jails are filled with our miners threatened with up charges, brought against them through the company hirelings?

"Do you know that 20 miners have been murdered and 25 others shot by Deputy gun men? Thousands have been beaten by coal company police—many of them cripple for life.

"Do you realize the coke region fight against unionism is a vital part in the winning of this great struggle? Then need shoes and clothing so they can fight on.

"Immediate assistance is necessary. Help us to help us, these miners who are still on strike."

MINE OWNERS' FINANCES BEHIND KEENEY TRIAL

Charleston, W. Va., Oct. 28.—The trial of C. F. Keeney, president of West Virginia district, United Mine Workers, was greeted today with out of the Logan county march of miners, opened here after vigorous protest from organized labor.

The defense charged that the state is not represented at the trial, that the prosecution is in charge of the Logan coal operators' association, and that the trial is part of the campaign of anti-union coal operators. The attorneys also charged that witness fees and other expenses of the prosecution are being paid by the coal owners.

RAIL EXECUTIVES SPLIT.

New York, Oct. 28.—Dissatisfaction exists among members of the association of railway executives, the organization that has handled the management of the railroads during the strike.

Many of the rail executives have come to the dictatorial methods of the Attorney General Daugherty, it is proposed that the association be dissolved and a new one for various sections of the country.

DEATHS AT STONE QUARRIES.

Washington, Oct. 28.—Accidents at stone quarries throughout the United States in 1921 resulted in the death of 161 employes and the injury of 10,465 others, according to federal statistics, it is stated.

The average number of men employed was 37,138, and they worked ployed was 77,116.

Daugherty Defends Daugherty Injunction

Canton, Ohio, Oct. 28.—In a stump speech of the regulation kind, Attorney General Daugherty defended his labor injunction at a political meeting in this city. The following is a sample of the bombast and crude declamation by the nation's legal chief-of-staff:

"With one bold challenge to constitutional government the strike leaders, to all apparent purposes, renounced the protection of government and declared that they would defy it. They would defy the power of the United States when they set up their own authority was challenged and threatened by chaos as deadly as armed anarchy itself. I say to you and every thinking man with love for his country in his heart, however, will say no as vehemently as I do."

The speaker showed how a crushing strike leader, to all high office when he condemned those who "would set up authority" was function is a modern device, a recent discovery?"

The attorney general made no distinction between the injunction against the railroad strike and the labor injunction, which is of recent date. Organized labor is only insulted when the injunction process be used as it has been for centuries, but the attorney general avoided this fact and would create the impression that organized workers are opposed to the injunction as originally intended—that it shall be used to break a strike and interfere with personal liberty, and that it shall never be used when the employer has other legal recourse.

The speech will undoubtedly stand as a record for untruths, intolerance and superficial statements by an attorney general of the United States who secured a labor injunction to break a strike and maintain the anti-union shop, but who now says he secured the injunction to prevent civil war.

Wall Street and Politicians Agree Injunction Is Best Strike Stopper

Washington, Oct. 28.—Are President Harding's close political friends dictating to Wall street or is Wall street dictating to them? Only recently Secretary of Labor Davis and former United States Senator Beveridge declared that the railroad labor board should be abolished. Publicity agents of Wall street are now making the same claim. These views are summarized by Benjamin Baker in the Annalist, "a weekly journal of finance, commerce and economics."

The writer says the board should be abolished and its duties assigned to the interstate commerce commission whose chairman should appoint three members of the commission for this work. The theory of having employes and management represented on this board is abandoned.

The writer says there is no necessity for congress passing "cant-strike" laws. The injunction injunction, he says, will serve every purpose that a "cant-strike" law would. Besides, there is no necessity for arraigning workers and launch a new propaganda when the railroads have made their point that the government will hereafter come to their aid and smash a railroad strike.

Mr. Baker graciously acknowledges that "labor is entitled to ask" that when its economic weapon be taken from it that the public shall assume obligations to equalize that loss.

The article indicates that Wall street and certain members of the president's cabinet, at least, are agreed that the Wilkerson injunction will now serve every purpose that an anti-strike law would, without causing opposition to the political agents of plutocracy. The railroads will not object to being given representation on the new wage commission as they are never antagonized when members of the interstate commerce commission are appointed. By taking the appointment of the new wage board from the president, Mr. Baker frankly states that "political pressure" can be used against the president but not against the chairman of the interstate commerce commission.

There is no difference between the injunction and a "cant-strike" law. In one case an injunction judge backed by the government enforces his edict that a strike is unauthorized, and in the other case the government enforces an edict by congress that if workers strike they violate the law.

The injunction process, however, is supposed to be painless, while the passage of a "cant-strike" law would provoke resentment.

INJUNCTION JUDGES WOULD CONTROL LIFE

Phoenix, Ariz, Oct. 28.—The use of injunctions must be so proscribed that it will be forever barred from industrial and political power, declared Hon. J. S. Kibbey, president of the Arizona state federation of labor, in his report to the annual convention.

"No policy of modern times has greater potential power to destroy freedom of the individual, freedom of speech, of press, of assemblage than the usurpation by judges to issue writs of injunction.

"The injunction habit has passed laws against every conceivable crime. Judges in an effort to maintain rights of property as superior to rights of human liberty, have decided by injunction to cover almost every conceivable crime.

"Labor is now not the only sufferer from the abuse of power by the courts. There is a tendency in the courts of this state cases on appeal, to favor the employing class having to do with the punishment of men for the alleged violation of injunctions issued by judges sitting in a political controversy.

"If the courts are going to undertake to say who shall be permitted to remain on a ballot for the people to vote on, then the system of government has undergone a revolution. The recent decisions of this situation prevail, but a similar case is now pending in the supreme court.

"The abuse of the injunction in labor disputes is done in spite of law, in fact, in defiance of law."

ATTACK RATE-MAKING PLAN.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Oct. 28.—The rate-making system for railroads under the Esch-Cummins law was attacked by Samuel Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo in a speech in this city. He said the plan is based on an arbitrary aggregate valuation of all railroads and rates are fixed high enough to earn 5½ per cent on these poor investments.

The speaker declared the law should be repealed or amended. He said the present system is "a farce," that the rate-making valuation was the value of the transportation actually performed and what the traffic could bear.

SLIGHT PRICE DROP.

Washington, Oct. 28.—An improvement in the cost of living for the period of 1 1-3 per cent from August to September is reported by the federal bureau of labor statistics.

"HIGH WAGE" FICTION GUARDED BY BOSSES

New York, Oct. 28.—The cloak makers' wage committee, headed by organized garment workers and their employers, has struck a snag. Its declaration that the purpose is to make an investigation of the annual earnings in the industry, that the bosses would sidetrack this issue by investigating the number of cloaks produced, and the number of the cloak makers refuse to divert the commission from its original purpose.

The employers whimper incessantly that the waves of cloak makers are too high. At every wage conference this song is sung. The bosses have demanded that the annual earnings be investigated. The commission was appointed, and now the bosses want production investigated, but they will not agree that their books be investigated.

"It is evident," says Justice, official magazine of the cloak makers, "that the cloak employers themselves do not want a wage investigation; they are afraid that the inevitable results of such an investigation—namely that the principal product of the cloak industry, one of the richest in the land, is barely profitable and frequently hardly unpalatable to them.

"The manufacturers do not want that they are afraid that the world might learn what the real earnings of the workers in the cloak industry are.

"They do not like to see the light of day. Investigations in labor disputes is done in spite of law, in fact, in defiance of law."

"RIGHT TO WORK" ONE-SIDED THEORY

Washington, Oct. 28.—"The fact has been burned into our hearts at the early time a worker learns that he has the 'right to work' guaranteed him by the government is when he is unable to find work during a strike-breaking agency," says the Journal of Electrical Workers and Operators.

"If this were not true, and if Mr. Herbert Hoover's theory that the job of the government would have enabled the 'right to work' of the thousands, yes, millions, of jobless men who were compelled last winter to walk the streets because they did not have the 'consent' of a small set of men. At that time the 'right to work' was a farce and nothing about sustaining the sacred right of those hungry and desperate men to work and live.

"All this cant about a workers' right to work is simply an effort to uphold the disgraceful act of scabbing, make a strikebreaking agency the tool of the federal government and pave the road and try to take away his right to quit—to strike.

"So we must drive home to every worker the earnest that the only rights he possesses are those he is strong enough to get and to keep—no more. At all times it is a question of organization."

Was Railway Wreck A Burns Frame-Up?

Gary, Ind., Oct. 28.—The grand jury of Lake county has indicted Andrew Jadjot John Petrowski and Joseph Popovich in connection with the Michigan Central wreck last August, and the two men have been released from jail. This is the wreck that was treated so sensationally by the public press, and occurred just at the time when Daugherty was developing a mob spirit to justify his injunction he was then preparing.

The attorney for the accused men openly charged that Sheriff Bird has degree that they and Charles Ussilis were subjected to by the police to force them to make false confessions. The attorney insisted that Ussilis was hired by a frame-up to discredit the striking shop men and that the wreck was caused by a broken rail.

It is predicted that Ussilis will soon be released. The only testimony against him is the statement of a government stool pigeon who claims he heard Ussilis declare that the train should be wrecked.

No publicity has been given the release of Ussilis, while the public press and anti-unionists continue to exploit the wreck as proof that striking shop men are lawless.

FICTION IN LABOR LAW.

Philadelphia, Oct. 28.—"The fiction of the law when Congress said the percentage of compensation should be removed," declares Harry A. Mackey, chairman of the state workmen's compensation board.

"The law presently contains a workman receives 66 per cent of his wages, as a matter of fact, he receives about 30 per cent when injured, for the reason that the act fixes $20 a week as the minimum and that is the percentage is calculated.

"If the next legislature of Pennsylvania four-squares itself with public sentiment and brings the workmen's compensation act up to the efficiency and dignity of the leading industrial states, then will the law give further recognition to compensation for medical service."

VOTE ON ARBITRATION.

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., Oct. 26. Members of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union are voting on a proposed international arbitration contract with the American newspaper publishers' association.

DAUGHERTY'S STUMP SPEECH IS "SUBLIMELY RIDICULOUS"

—President Gompers

Washington, Oct. 28.—In a statement on Attorney General Daugherty's political speech in Canton, Ohio, in which he declared his labor injunction prevented civil war, President Gompers said that the cabinet official "rose to the heights of the ridiculous."

"He became sublimely ridiculous," said President Gompers.

"The attorney general complained of being vilified. For my part I have no hope of improving on the story told by the record itself.

"The department of justice,' he says, spent 'probably a million and a half dollars in seven weeks.' Mr. Daugherty says that 'more than 17,000 affidavits * * * concerning anarchy bordering on civil war' were secured. Its easy to reflection on the quality of these affidavits, leaving his hearers to believe that they represented the solemn truth. As a matter of fact these affidavits were literally fished out of the sewers among strikebreakers and paid agents of the most-desperate character, most of whom were perfectly willing to sign anything they were paid to sign, and many of whom have now disappeared entirely from the locality in which they had temporary residence when the affidavits were secured. The character of these affidavits already has been made plain in open court. Some of these, upon which the attorney general doubtless placed the greatest importance, have developed into utter fabrications.

"I have a theory that knowing how much of the million and a half dollars was expended in securing this enormous number of affidavits, that Mr. Daugherty has not yet learned the full extent of the extravagance and corruption by presenting these facts.

"Under the bill unprecedented and unwarranted authority have been vested in the shipping board, as may be necessary for the work it has to do. It is not required to make any financial accounting to congress or to the federal courts. At the present time it is permitted to dispose of government property and vessels at such sale without competitive bidding.

"Ships costing several billions of dollars can, and probably will be, sold at 10 cents on the dollar, it is estimated. Yet the bill does not require purchasers of these ships when sold, and then by the government to expend $150,000,000 at 2 per cent interest to recondition these ships when sold, and then by the purchasers to expend numbers $150,000,000 in subsidies besides in the next few years."

It is significant that on more than one occasion the legitimate farmers of this country have protested against this despite heroic attempts of Senator Capper to secure justice to farmers that a subsidy will aid agriculture.

REACTION SNARLS.

Philadelphia, Oct. 26.—President Gompers address before the Pennsylvania legion at New Orleans has brought forth from reaction's spokesmen, who set it be known that any understanding between the A. F. of L. and the labor is treason to sale to them.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, which seems to make false conflict its editorial service," emits this growl:

"Mr. Gompers was in New Orleans, Year in and year out he seeks to elect men and influence legislation in favor of the labor politics. He is backing a movement to place labor above and outside the laws that apply to all other citizens. He has begun to hamstring the courts and among his supporters loudly declare that the train should be wrecked.

No publicity has been given the Public Ledger's professed claims on the value of education, a belief that the newspaper does not seem to practice.

TECHNICAL MEN'S SCALE.

Washington, Oct. 28.—The potter committee on industrial relations of Federation of Technical Engineers, Architectural Draftsmen's union has approved the following minimum wage for the different grades of draftsmen:

Supervising draftsmen, $51.90 to $61 per day; designing draftsmen, $8.85, $7.60 and $10.40 per day; detail draftsmen, first class, $7.30, $7.60 and $8.40 per day; second class, $5.60, $6 and $6.40 per day; third class draftsmen, $4.80 per day; student draftsmen, $4 per day.

The federation of technical men is affiliated with the A. F. of L. C. L. Rosemund is president.

SETS EXCESSIVE BAIL.

Los Angeles, Cal., Oct. 28.—The constitutional prohibition against excessive bail is nothing to Federal Judge Bledsoe who has practically nullified it several occasions by fixing labor injunctions. One railroad striker at Needles is charged with violating Mr. Bledsoe's personal law. The striker has been arrested and the judge demands a $5,000 bail.

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL OPPOSED BY FARMERS

Washington, Oct. 28.—"An emphatic protest against this legislation" is the attitude of the national board of farm organizations toward the pending ship subsidy bill.

The federal body represents the several associations of "dirt" farmers in the country. They have legislative headquarters in this city. Opposition to the subsidy bill, which will be taken up at their semi-annual conference, convening here, was voiced by the directors of the same organization last July, when they declared the ship subsidy bill "a dangerous act of disaster to the nation."

The farmers supported their position by presenting these facts:

"Under the bill unprecedented and unwarranted authority have been vested in the shipping board, as may be necessary for the work it has to do. It is not required to make any financial accounting to congress or to the federal courts. At the present time it is permitted to dispose of government property and vessels at such sale without competitive bidding.

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